

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 TEL AV 03714 140502Z

15

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SAB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-15 IO-10 SCCT-01 ACDA-10 /088 W

----- 042053

R 131346Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7082
INFO AMEMBSSY AMMAN
AMEMBSSY BEIRUT
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

UNCLAS TEL AVIV 3714

E.O.11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, IS, SY, XF

SUBJECT: ISRAELIS CONCERNED BUT NOT PANICKED OVER
ASAD VISIT TO JORDAN

1. ISRAELI PRESS OVER PAST SEVERAL DAYS HAS DEVOTED
CONSIDERABLE ATTENTION TO VISIT OF SYRIAN PRESIDENT
ASAD TO JORDAN. WRITERS TEND TO FOCUS ON POTENTIAL
CONSEQUENCES FOR ISRAEL OF POSSIBLE JOINT MILITARY
ACTIVITY BY JORDAN AND SYRIA, WHICH IS GENERALLY
ASSUMED TO BE ONE OUTCOME OF VISIT. RELATIVELY
LESS SPACE IS DEVOTED TO EMERGENCE OF JORDAN FROM
POST-RABAT POLITICAL ISOLATION AND POSSIBLE STRENGTHENING OF ITS POSI
TION
AS NEGOTIATOR FOR WEST BANK. CONSENSUS SEEMS TO
BE THAT SYRIA AND JORDAN SHARE MUTUAL INTEREST
IN IMPROVED RELATIONS, IF ONLY TEMPORARILY, DUE TO
POSSIBILITY OF EGYPT PURSUING OWN INTERESTS UNILATERALLY.
FOLLOWING ARE MAIN THEMES FROM EDITORIALS AND
COMMENTARIES.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 TEL AV 03714 140502Z

2. SYRIAN MOTIVES. SYRIA FEARS THAT EGYPT MIGHT BE WILLING TO SIGN AGREEMENT THAT WOULD LEAVE IDF IN PLACE ON GOLAN AND THAT WOULD PRECLUDE EGYPTIAN PARTICIPATION IN RENEWED WAR EFFORT. AGAINST THIS POSSIBILITY, SYRIA IS SEEKING JORDANIAN PARTICIPATION IN POSSIBLE FUTURE WAR AS PROTECTION FOR SYRIAN SOUTHERN FLANK. A SENSE OF URGENCY HAS BEEN ADDED TO SYRIAN CONCERN BY DISPUTE WITH IRAQ.

3. JORDANIAN MILITARY MOVES. JORDAN STAYED OUT OF 1973 WAR, BUT IT WAS EGYPT AND SYRIA THAT REGAINED TERRITORY. IF THERE IS TO BE ANOTHER WAR, JORDAN WANTS TO BE PREPARED TO PARTICIPATE. THIS REQUIRES MILITARY COORDINATION WITH SYRIA, ESPECIALLY SINCE EGYPT MIGHT NOT TAKE PART. FORMER PROBLEM OF INADEQUATE AIR DEFENSE IS BEING SOLVED THROUGH ACQUISITION OF HAWK MISSILES FROM US.

4. JORDANIAN POLITICAL MOTIVES. HUSSEIN BELIEVES ASAD MAY BE READY TO SUPPORT JORDAN RATHER THAN THE PLO AS NEGOTIATOR FOR RETURN OF THE WEST BANK AS PAYMENT FOR JORDANIAN MILITARY COOPERATION. THIS NEED NOT INVOLVE AMENDMENT OF RABAT RESOLUTIONS; ASAD IS IN POSITION TO FORCE PLO TO ACCEPT INVOLVEMENT OF HUSSEIN. SIGN THAT HUSSEIN IS CORRECT IN HIS ASSESSMENT IS GATHERING OF PLO REJECTIONISTS IN LIBYA TO JOIN QADDAFI IN PROPAGANDA CAMPAIGN AGAINST SADAT AND, INDIRECTLY, ASAD.

5. TEMPORARY NATURE OF RELATIONSHIP. SYRIA AND JORDAN HAVE HISTORY OF BAD RELATIONS STEMMING FROM BASIC DIFFERENCES, AND PRESENT WARMING TREND IS ONLY MARRIAGE OF CONVENIENCE AGAINST POSSIBILITY THAT EGYPT WILL OPT FOR COMPLETELY UNCOORDINATED MOVE IN SINAI. HUSSEIN CAN HAVE NO ILLUSIONS ABOUT HIS JUNIOR STATUS IN RELATIONSHIP WITH SYRIA. HIS SEARCH FOR SOME WAY OUT

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 TEL AV 03714 140502Z

OF HIS ISOLATION WILL PROBABLY LEAD HIM TO OTHER ARRANGEMENTS HAVING MORE POLITICAL LOGIC.

6. IMPLICATIONS FOR ISRAEL. CLOSER RELATIONS BETWEEN SYRIA AND JORDAN, COMBINED WITH RECENT DECLARATION BY JORDANIAN CHIEF-OF-STAFF THAT "WAR WITH ISRAEL IS UNAVOIDABLE", MEANS THAT ISRAEL MUST BE ALERT FOR SIGNS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF ANY

AGREEMENTS IN MILITARY SPHERE.POSSIBILITY THAT
ASAD IS READY TO THROW HIS WEIGHT TO HUSSEIN AS
NEGOTIATING PARTNER FOR ISRAEL OVER WEST BANK ALSO
CALLS FOR ALERTNESS AND FOR POSSIBLE REASSESSMENT
IN JERUSALEM.
VELIOTES

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: CHIEF OF STATE VISITS, PEACE TALKS, GOLAN HEIGHTS, MILITARY OCCUPIED AREAS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 13 JUN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975TELAV03714
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750207-1061
From: TEL AVIV
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750650/aaaabtwm.tel
Line Count: 121
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: greeneet
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 MAR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13 MAR 2003 by PhilliR0>; APPROVED <12 FEB 2004 by greeneet>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: ISRAELIS CONCERNED BUT NOT PANICKED OVER ASAD VISIT TO JORDAN
TAGS: PFOR, IS, SY, XF, (ASAD, HAFIZ)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006